



STATE ALUMNI

YOUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY

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The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State fosters mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. ECA accomplishes its mission through a range of programs based on the benefits of mutual understanding, international educational and cultural exchange, and leadership development. With the more than 1,000,000 alumni of these programs worldwide, ECA is committed to providing resources to sustain engagement.

Making an Impact

ECA exchange alumni are working around the globe to improve the state of our planet and communities.

- A total of 51 alumni of ECA programs have won the Nobel Prize.
- More than 350 alumni of ECA programs are current or former Heads of Government or Chiefs of State.

Prominent Alumni Include:

Maya Angelou
Craig Barrett
Gordon Brown
Felipe Calderón
Renée Fleming
Abdullah Gül
Hamid Karzai
Ricardo Lagos
Yo Yo Ma
Festus Mogae
Oscar Arias Sánchez
Nicolas Sarkozy
Ruth Simmons
Javier Solana
Joseph Stiglitz
Muhammad Yunus

EXCHANGE ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

- Hesti Armiwulan Sochmawardiah (International Visitor Leadership Program, 2005), Deputy Chairperson of the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights for External Affairs, is a tireless proponent of human rights, specifically in the areas of women's empowerment and leadership.
- Fariz Ismailzade (Future Leaders Exchange and Undergraduate Exchange Program) established the U.S.-Educated Azerbaijani Alumni Association, which has become one of the most active and dynamic ECA alumni associations in the world with over one thousand members participating in various projects.
- Janina Ochojska (International Visitor Leadership Program, 1996) is president of the Polish Humanitarian Organization and founder of Drugiej Reki, an NGO that collects donated clothes and appliances for the poor. Inspired by the U.S. non-profit organizations she visited during her exchange program, Ochojska introduced the first website in Poland to support organizations through online donation payments.
- Usha Bhasin (Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program, 1996) heads the Development Communication Division of the largest national television network in India, Doordarshan, and is a founding member of the management committee of the Association of Indian Humphrey Fellows. Her program Kalyani received the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS Civil Society Award for its contribution to generating awareness of HIV/AIDS throughout India.
- Abbas Abbas (International Visitor Leadership Program, 2007) has made significant strides toward improving the lives of the blind Arab-Israeli community through building the first Arab Audio Library for the blind in Israel as well as creating specialized materials with essential information for Arab blind. A tireless volunteer in the disability community, he works closely with the Israeli parliament (Knesset) in order to maximize impact.
- Fred Mutebi (Fulbright Scholar in Residence, 2003) is a dynamic artist who encourages women and youth to use art as a means of communicating HIV/AIDS messages through his organization, "Let Talk Art." He regularly organizes events, including a successful International World HIV/AIDS Day "North-South Art Exchange for Students" exhibit, as well as activities for children and youth affected by the twenty-year conflict in the Acholi sub region of northern Uganda.
- Miguel Angel Dávila (Fulbright Student, 1991) is an entrepreneur who helped create Cinemex, an innovative and successful movie theater chain in Mexico. He served as president of the Fulbright Alumni Association in Mexico, and led a fundraising campaign that yielded over a million dollars for additional Fulbright-Garcia Robles scholarships.
- Marilyn Turner (Fulbright Teacher Exchange, 1981) of the United States has shown extraordinary commitment to improving international relations through education following her program in the United Kingdom. Thanks to her capacity for organization, the Fulbright Teacher Exchange program and the Colorado International Teachers' Exchange League thrive in the Mountain States.

Continuing the Dialogue

The energy, enthusiasm, and expertise of ECA alumni are immense. In coordination with U.S. embassies and consulates worldwide, as well as U.S. non-profit organizations, the Office of Alumni Affairs strives to support alumni as they build upon their exchange experience. Alumni activities include training programs, service projects and alumni association sponsored events. State Alumni, an exclusive online global community, is one other important resource for alumni.

State Alumni: Your Global Community

State Alumni is the U.S. Department of State's official website for ECA alumni. Interactive, dynamic, and password-protected, alumni.state.gov offers alumni from U.S government-sponsored exchange programs a place to:

- * Network & connect with alumni
- * Share ideas, news, & stories
- * Participate in Q&A Live discussions
- * Access valuable resources such as grants, jobs, and research databases

For more information, please contact: alumni@state.gov

